

Nelson Building
2501-2507 Kemper Lane
Cincinnati
Hamilton County
Ohio

HABS No. OH-651

HABS
OHIO,
31-CINT,
37-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MID-ATLANTIC REGION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

HABS
OH-651
NELSON
BUILDING

Location: 2501-07 Kemper Lane (northwest corner of Kemper Lane and McMillan Avenue), Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Ohio

Present Owner: City of Cincinnati

Present Occupant: Vacant

Present Use: Not in use.

Significance: A strong corner element of a once flourishing neighborhood business district.

I. Historical Information.

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: c. 1900.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and subsequent owners: Unknown, Morris Investment Company.
4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Unknown.
5. Original plans and construction: not available.
6. Alterations and additions: None

- B. Historical Context: Building was originally part of a flourishing neighborhood business district, which was very important to the growth and development of the area.

II. Architectural Information.

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The structure is an example of Eclectic Revival architecture, exhibiting such elements as gabled wall dormers, a mansard roof, egg and dart detailing on the cast iron storefront, and an outstanding Romanesque arch doorway.
2. Condition of fabric: The overall character of the existing fabric is in good condition.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 50' X 210'
2. Foundation: stone.
3. Walls: brick
4. Structure system, framing: stretcher bond.

5. Porches, stoopes, balconies, bulkheads: None.
6. Chimneys: Several chimneys with corbeled caps.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: large, decorative, Romanesque arched doorway on the eastern facade with double glass doors. On the southern facade, are two plain doorways with no outstanding features.
 - b. Windows and shutters: plain rectangular, double hung 1/1 windows with stone lintels and sills. Also small arched windows in dormers.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Mansard roof made of tile.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: None.
 - c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: 3 gabled dormers on southern side and 4 gabled dormers on side.
- C. Description of Interior: Nothing in the interior of the building was found to be of any significance. There are no plans or drawings which remain in existence.
- D. Site:
 1. General setting and orientation: The building is located at the N.W. corner of Kemper Lane and McMillan Avenue, in the Cincinnati neighborhood of Walnut Hills. The setting is that of an old neighborhood business district with a wide variety of architectural styles forming the streetscape.
 2. Outbuildings: None.

III. Sources of Information.

- A. No architectural drawings or early photographs have been located.

Other sources include:

Ohio Historic Inventory Form - The Nelson House. prepared by the Cincinnati City Planning Commission in June 1981.

Interview with Steven Schuckman, City Planner with the Historic
Conservation staff of the Cincinnati City Planning Commission.

Personal Observation

Prepared by: Lauren Blank
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12/30/81.